

I claim:

1 1. A method for adapting the polling rate for collecting job information
2 from a device, the method comprising the steps of:
3 querying a device for job information;
4 determining a state of job progress from the job information;
5 setting a delay time depending upon the state of job progress; and
6 querying the device for job information after the delay time has passed.

1 2. The method for adapting the polling rate for collecting job information
2 from a device of claim 1, wherein an application-layer protocol is employed to poll the
3 device.

1 3. The method for adapting the polling rate for collecting job information
2 from a device of claim 1, wherein a network management protocol request is
3 employed to poll the device.

1 4. The method for adapting the polling rate for collecting job information
2 from a device of claim 1, wherein a Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP)-
3 enabled application is employed to poll the device.

1 5. The method for adapting the polling rate for collecting job information
2 from a device of claim 1, wherein the device is a network-connected device.

1 6. The method for adapting the polling rate for collecting job information
2 from a device of claim 1, wherein the device is a printer.

1 7. The method for adapting the polling rate for collecting job information
2 from a device of claim 1, wherein the job information comprises print job information.

1 8. The method for adapting the polling rate for collecting job information
2 from a device of claim 1, wherein the delay time is set to be no less than an acceptable
3 delay time.

1 9. The method for adapting the polling rate for collecting job information
2 from a device of claim 1, wherein the step of setting a delay time includes the steps of:
3 adjusting an expected job completion time depending upon the state of job
4 progress; and
5 determining the delay time from the expected job completion time.

1 10. The method for adapting the polling rate for collecting job information
2 from a device of claim 9, wherein the delay time is set to be less than the expected job
3 completion time.

1 11. The method for adapting the polling rate for collecting job information
2 from a device of claim 9, wherein the delay time is set to be approximately one half of
3 the expected job completion time.

1 12. The method for adapting the polling rate for collecting job information
2 from a device of claim 9, wherein the delay time is set to be within a range of values
3 bounded by a minimum delay time and a maximum delay time.

1 13. A method for adapting the polling rate for collecting job information
2 from a device, the method comprising the steps of:
3 querying a device for information;
4 determining an expected job completion time from the information;
5 setting a delay time depending upon the expected job completion time; and
6 querying the device for job information after the delay time has passed.

1 14. The method for adapting the polling rate for collecting job information
2 from a device of claim 13, wherein the information comprises a rated speed of the
3 device.

1 15. The method for adapting the polling rate for collecting job information
2 from a device of claim 14, wherein the rated speed is a rated engine speed.

1 17. The method for adapting the polling rate for collecting job information
2 from a device of claim 13, wherein the expected job completion time is a best case job
3 completion time.

3 (a) querying a device for device and/or job information according to a polling
4 rate;

7 (c) repeating steps (a) and (b) until a job associated with the device and/or job
8 information is completed.

1 19. The method for adapting the polling rate for collecting job information
2 from a device of claim 18, wherein the polling rate is adjusted such that a delay time
3 until a next query to the device is no less than an acceptable delay time.

1 20. The method for adapting the polling rate for collecting job information
2 from a device of claim 18, wherein the polling rate is adjusted such that a delay time
3 until a next query to the device is set to be within a range of values bounded by a
4 minimum delay time and a maximum delay time.

1 21. The method for adapting the polling rate for collecting job information
2 from a device of claim 18, wherein the device information comprises a function
3 performance rating.

1 22. The method for adapting the polling rate for collecting job information
2 from a device of claim 21, wherein the function performance rating is a printing speed
3 rating.

1 23. The method for adapting the polling rate for collecting job information
2 from a device of claim 18, wherein the job information comprises job progress
3 information.

1 24. The method for adapting the polling rate for collecting job information
2 from a device of claim 23, wherein the job progress information comprises print job
3 progress information.

1 25. The method for adapting the polling rate for collecting job information
2 from a device of claim 18, wherein the job information comprises print job
3 information.

1 26. A computer program for adapting the polling rate for collecting job
2 information from a device comprising:
3 a computer usable medium having computer-readable instructions thereon for
4 causing a computer to query a device for job information, determine a state of job
5 progress from the job information, set a delay time depending upon the state of job
6 progress, and query the device for job information after the delay time has passed.

1 27. A processing system for adapting the polling rate for collecting job
2 information from a device comprising:
3 a monitoring agent configured to query a device for job information,
4 determine a state of job progress from the job information, set a delay time depending
5 upon the state of job progress, and query the device for job information after the delay
6 time has passed.